

thinks they can hit and hide in some cave somewhere.

It's going to require a new thought process. And I'm proud to report our military, led by the Secretary of Defense, understands that—understands it's a new type of war; it's going to take a long time to win this war. The American people are going to have to be more patient than ever with the efforts of—our combined efforts, not just ourselves but the efforts of our allies, to get them running and find them and to hunt them down.

But as the Vice President said, you know, Usama bin Laden is just one person. He is representative of networks of people who absolutely have made their cause to defeat the freedoms that we take—that we understand. And we will not allow them to do so.

#### **Usama bin Laden**

**Q.** Do you want bin Laden dead?

**The President.** I want him held—I want justice. There's an old poster out West, as I recall, that said, "Wanted: Dead or Alive."

**Q.** Do you see this being long-term? You were saying it's long-term; do you see an end, at all?

**The President.** I think that this is a long-term battle—war. There will be battles. But this is long-term. After all, our mission is not just Usama bin Laden, the Al Qaida organization. Our mission is to battle terrorism and to join with freedom-loving people.

We are putting together a coalition that is a coalition dedicated to declaring to the world we will do what it takes to find the terrorists, to rout them out and to hold them accountable. And the United States is proud to lead the coalition.

**Q.** Are you saying you want him dead or alive, sir? Can I interpret—

**The President.** I just remember—all I'm doing is remembering—when I was a kid, I remember that they used to put out there in the Old West, a wanted poster. It said, "Wanted: Dead or Alive." All I want and America wants him brought to justice. That's what we want.

NOTE: The President spoke at 11:45 a.m. at the entrance to the Joint Staff corridor of the Pentagon. In his remarks, he referred to Usama bin Laden, leader of the Al Qaida terrorist organiza-

tion. A portion of these remarks could not be verified because the tape was incomplete.

#### **Remarks at the Islamic Center of Washington**

*September 17, 2001*

Thank you all very much for your hospitality. We've just had a—wide-ranging discussions on the matter at hand. Like the good folks standing with me, the American people were appalled and outraged at last Tuesday's attacks. And so were Muslims all across the world. Both Americans, our Muslim friends and citizens, taxpaying citizens, and Muslims in nations were just appalled and could not believe what we saw on our TV screens.

These acts of violence against innocents violate the fundamental tenets of the Islamic faith. And it's important for my fellow Americans to understand that.

The English translation is not as eloquent as the original Arabic, but let me quote from the Koran itself: "In the long run, evil in the extreme will be the end of those who do evil. For that they rejected the signs of Allah and held them up to ridicule."

The face of terror is not the true faith of Islam. That's not what Islam is all about. Islam is peace. These terrorists don't represent peace. They represent evil and war.

When we think of Islam, we think of a faith that brings comfort to a billion people around the world. Billions of people find comfort and solace and peace. And that's made brothers and sisters out of every race—out of every race.

America counts millions of Muslims amongst our citizens, and Muslims make an incredibly valuable contribution to our country. Muslims are doctors, lawyers, law professors, members of the military, entrepreneurs, shopkeepers, moms and dads. And they need to be treated with respect. In our anger and emotion, our fellow Americans must treat each other with respect.

Women who cover their heads in this country must feel comfortable going outside their homes. Moms who wear cover must not be intimidated in America. That's not the America I know. That's not the America I value.

I've been told that some fear to leave; some don't want to go shopping for their families; some don't want to go about their ordinary daily routines because, by wearing cover, they're afraid they'll be intimidated. That should not and that will not stand in America.

Those who feel like they can intimidate our fellow citizens to take out their anger don't represent the best of America. They represent the worst of humankind, and they should be ashamed of that kind of behavior.

This is a great country. It's a great country because we share the same values of respect and dignity and human worth. And it is my honor to be meeting with leaders who feel just the same way I do. They're outraged; they're sad. They love America just as much as I do.

I want to thank you all for giving me a chance to come by. And may God bless us all. Thank you.

NOTE: The President spoke at 3:12 p.m. at the mosque.

## **Proclamation 7465—National Farm and Ranch Safety and Health Week, 2001**

*September 17, 2001*

*By the President of the United States  
of America*

### **A Proclamation**

Our Nation's agriculture industry represents 13 percent of our economy and remains central to our prosperity at home and our competitiveness abroad. At the core of this industry are countless dedicated farmers and ranchers working to produce food stuffs at a level of efficiency and quality unrivaled around the globe. In many ways, agriculture ranks among the most crucial of our Nation's industries; and yet, its reliability and productivity are often taken for granted.

Our farmers and ranchers face significant challenges and uncertainty, from inclement weather to damaging insects. They also face health and safety dangers, from exposure to chemicals and the operation of machinery to tending livestock. In 1999, the agriculture industry suffered more than 770 deaths and

150,000 disabling injuries. Of these victims, many were children and young people injured or killed in preventable farm and ranch accidents.

Progress is being made in developing technology that makes farm and ranch work safer. Safety equipment features for tractors, such as roll-over protective structures, bypass starter covers, and hazard warning lights, aid in the prevention of injuries and save lives. Sunscreens, hearing protection devices, and other personal protective equipment reduce the serious health problems caused by toxic gases, chemicals, and harsh environmental conditions. We must increase awareness of the availability of safety and health protection measures. I encourage farmers and ranchers to develop safety and health plans that meet the needs of their businesses, families, and employees. Safety equipment should be installed, maintained regularly, and used consistently. Children also must be taught to recognize risks on the farm and ranch and to help with chores safely.

Despite many hazards and uncertainties, America's farmers and ranchers remain among the most dedicated and productive contributors to our Nation's economy. I am committed to supporting the American farmer and rancher, and my Administration will help those facing financial difficulties caused by storms, droughts, or any other unforeseen natural catastrophe. In times of emergency, farmers and ranchers will get the assistance they need, when they need it. I recently signed a \$5.5 billion agriculture supplemental bill that affirms my commitment to maintaining a strong and healthy agricultural economy.

My Administration also will support tax-deferred savings accounts to help farming and ranching families guard against downturns. To keep farms and ranches in a family from generation to generation, we are eliminating the death tax. Finally, farmers and ranchers need foreign markets to sell their products, and I will work hard to ensure that agriculture is a top priority in future trade negotiations.

Our Nation owes a debt of gratitude to our farmers and ranchers for helping to ensure stability in our economy, for providing